

School Travel Update

4.9.20



Dear parent / guardian,

Due to social distancing restrictions, the scholars' bus service is currently limited to 60 students per bus, however we are grateful to our colleagues at Nexus for arranging additional buses on some of our busiest routes to support our students **starting from Monday 7th September.**

Important information for bus passengers

- ✓ Parents and students should check closely their travel arrangements, including times and routes of buses on the NEXUS website (<https://www.nexus.org.uk/covid-secure>)
- ✓ Have the exact fare ready - £1 per single journey. No change will be given
- ✓ Pop Cards – see Nexus website for details of how to get a pop card, and for fares with a card
- ✓ If using contactless payments, check to see if the operator in **both directions** have the facility for this.
- ✓ Only seats facing forward may be used
- ✓ In order to ensure social distancing, please advise your child to sit on the bus as follows:

Y7 Rear of lower deck

Y8 Front of lower deck

Y9 Front of upper deck

Y10 Mid upper deck

Y11 -13 – further back on upper deck by year group

Ouston bus

This will run from Thursday 3rd September as usual. Y10 students can return on it in the afternoon but will need to make other arrangements for coming to school in the morning.

878 Pelaw/Wardley

The bus will run with a capacity of 60, however an additional bus has been provided from the stop by Heworth Golf Club onwards. This will follow immediately behind the 878. Students must purchase their ticket on the bus in front, then if necessary go to the bus behind to take a seat.

Students travelling from the Fewster Square area are advised to take the **880** back home in the afternoon.

882 Birtley

The bus will run with a capacity of 60, however an additional bus has been provided to follow the scholars' bus and pick up extra students. This will follow immediately behind the 882. Students must purchase their ticket on the bus in front, then if necessary go to the bus behind to take a seat.

879 Festival Park and onward (Morning only)

One bus will run with a capacity of 60 seats. From information received from parents we expect that there will be seats for all students who need them. If this is not the case we will issue priority passes as necessary. Students should return on the **880**.

880 (Afternoon only)

One bus with a capacity of 60 seats. (see 878 and 882 above). From information received from parents we expect that there will be seats for all students who need them. If this is not the case we will issue priority passes as necessary.

881 Saltwell Rd South and onwards

One bus will run with a capacity of 60 seats. From information received from parents we expect that there will be seats for all students who need them. If this is not the case we will issue priority passes as necessary.

Bus passes for scholars' services (CHCS)

To ensure the safety of students bus passes will be issued to those students with the greatest need. Priority will be given to those at a greater distance from school, younger students, and any students with a specific need.

Alternative travel

We are very grateful to those parents who have advised us that they are able to make alternative arrangements for travel to and from school. We hope that as many students as possible will either walk or cycle to school as this will relieve the pressure on school transport, and have the additional benefit of being healthier for the students and the environment. New, more secure cycle sheds have been installed in school to facilitate this.

As ever, we are very grateful for your continued support at this challenging time and hope that you and your family remain safe and well.

Mrs R Flint, Assistant Headteacher